

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
COLORADO STATE OFFICE
2850 YOUNGFIELD STREET
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO 80215-7093**

In Reply Refer To:
9210 (CO-937) P

June 23, 2006

EMS TRANSMISSION: 06/28/2006
Instruction Memorandum No. 2006-040
Expires: 09/30/2007

To: Field Managers and Center Managers
Attn: Fire Management Officers

From: State Director

Subject: Wildland Fire Personnel and Equipment Identification

Purpose: This Instruction Memo establishes a uniform state-wide standard for personnel and equipment assigned to fire and fuels management in order to clearly identify emergency management resources on fire and non-fire related assignments nation-wide.

Background: The intent of this instruction memorandum is to create a system that clearly identifies professional wildland fire management resources and provides common identification standards for equipment and personnel. It is expandable to include other non-fire functional areas if the need arises. Due to the multi-jurisdictional response required of today's federal wildland fire management resources, which often includes various natural and human-caused disasters, it has become readily apparent that the fire resources of the Bureau do not identify well with other emergency response agencies at the state and local level. Confusion between federal and other agency terminologies often places our employees in situations that are not conducive to prompt and efficient operations. Wildland fire management terminology with reference to command and resource identification is generally unique to Federal wildland agencies and is often foreign to our cooperators. Throughout history, the municipal and state emergency response agencies have relied on a tried and true command and identification structure. Recently, with more and more involvement by federal wildland agency personnel into the true emergency response environment, it has become apparent that our personnel are not generally identified as a professional firefighting resource.

Policy/Action: The Colorado State Fire Management Officer is responsible for ensuring compliance with the implementation of this direction statewide within the Bureau. The Unit Fire Management Officers are responsible for the implementation of this system within their delegated fire management units. Field Office Managers may choose to implement the non-fire functional area identification system depending upon their local situation.

Implementation: Attachment 1 identifies the Colorado BLM Fire Emergency Vehicle Markings & Warning Systems for fire management vehicles. Attachment 2 identifies the Colorado BLM Clear Text Identification Standards for Vehicles & Hardhats/Helmets. The vehicle and personnel identification systems outlined in these two attachments will be fully implemented by January 1, 2007. Unit fire management officers should make the appropriate budget planning adjustments to properly fund this direction within their respective units.

Questions regarding this should be directed to Andrew Parker, Assistant State Fire Management Officer – Operations, at 303-239-3693.

Signed by:
Douglas M. Koza
Acting State Director

Authenticated by:
Cathy Cooney
Branch of IRM & Access

2 Attachments:

- 1 - Colorado BLM Fire Emergency Vehicle Markings & Warning Systems (8pp)
- 2 - Colorado BLM Clear Text Identification Standards for Vehicles & Hardhats/Helmets (5pp)